REMARKS

Entry of the amendments to the claims and abstract before examination of the application is respectfully requested. The claims have been amended to remove multiple dependencies. The abstract submitted herewith is the same as in the original, however, it has been submitted on a separate sheet.

If there are any questions regarding this Preliminary Amendment or this application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

It is respectfully requested that, if necessary to effect a timely response, this paper be considered as a Petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response and shortages in other fees, be charged, or any overpayment in fees be credited, to the Account of Evenson, McKeown, Edwards & Lenahan, P.L.L.C., Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #1574/49849).

April 23, 2001

Respectfully submitted,

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Marked-Up Version of Amendment

In the Claims:

- 3. (Amended) A recombinant DNA, which comprises the DNA fragment according to claim 1 [or 2], cloned in a plasmid replicating in *Streptomyces*.
- 7. (Amended) A process for the production of hybrid compounds, comprising transferring the DNA fragment according to claim 1 [or 2] into a *Streptomyces* host, cultivating the recombinant strain obtained, and isolating the compounds produced.
- 12. (Amended) A process for the production of hybrid compounds, comprising transferring at least one of the genes selected from the group consisting of snogJ, snogA, snoaM, snogN, snoaG, snogC, snogK, snoaL, snoK, snogD, snoW, snogE, snoL, snoO and snoaF into a Streptomyces host, said genes being derived from the DNA fragment of claim 1 [or 2], cultivating the recombinant strain obtained, and isolating the compounds produced.